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SECRET

Executive Registry
3916/A

5 AUG 1970

Vice Admiral Noel Gayler, USN
Director, National Security Agency
Fort George G. Meade, Maryland 20755

Dear Noel:

Thank you for your letter of 23 July 1970. I too hope that NPIC participation in the COINS network will make a contribution to the problems which confront us in the development of the system.

I regret that acceptance of your recommendation that we permit the Headquarters CIA system to operate eight hours daily in COINS at the TS, SI level would pose security risks which at the moment are unacceptable. I am advised that reconfiguration of our system to accommodate this without the current risk would take several months and possibly require additional equipment.

I have asked that a concerted effort be made to sort out our problems with COINS and chart a clear course for the future. I expect this to be accomplished within the next few weeks, after which we shall be in touch with you.

Sincerely,

/s/ Dick

Richard Helms
Director

ExDir/LKW:blp
Distribution:
Original - Addressee
1 - ER
1 - DD/I
1 - D/DCI/NIPE
1 - D/NPIC
1 - D/PPB
1 - DDI Planning Staff

GROUP 1
Excluded from automatic downgrading and declassification

Declass Review by NIMA/DOD

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NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755

Executive Registry
70-3976

Serial: N 0736

23 July 1970

SECRET

The Honorable Richard M. Helms
Director of Central Intelligence
Washington, D. C. 20505

Dear Dick:

I am very pleased that NPIC will shortly rejoin the COINS network. Although the Center will be operating only in a passive mode, this is a good first step. Please extend my thanks to those involved.

In conjunction with this, I recommend appointment of a separate NPIC COINS Subsystem Manager and representatives to each of the panels and working groups, thus assuring effective liaison between my project manager and NPIC.

At this time also, I would like to reiterate our recommendation of 13 May 1970 that you grant a waiver permitting the Headquarters CIA system to operate eight hours daily in COINS at the Top Secret, SI level while concurrently processing sensitive proprietary data.

Though I can appreciate your concern about inadvertent spillage of your proprietary data into the network, our experience shows there are adequate safeguards. NSA has long operated the RYE system (the NSA computer system in COINS) for concurrent processing of SI, TK and compartmented SIGINT data — with no compromises.

I hope your reply will be favorable. If so, you should be able to operate full time in COINS by 1 August.

Warm regards,

[redacted]

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NOEL GAYLER
Vice Admiral, U. S. Navy
Director

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CENTER ROUTING SLIP

FROM DCI

DATE 8/7

TO		INITIALS	DATE	REMARKS
DIRECTOR				
DEP/DIRECTOR	2		8-7	1-2 FYI
EXEC/DIRECTOR	3			— Hold for
SPECIAL ASST	1		8/7	
ASST TO DIR				
HISTORIAN				
CH/PPBS				
DEP CH/PPBS				
EXO/PPBS				
CH/SS				
DEP CH/SS				
SC & P				
RECORDS MGT				
PERSONNEL				
LOGISTICS				
TRAINING				
SECURITY				
FINANCE				
CH/IEG				
DEP CH/IEG				
EXO/IEG				
CH/PSG				— Has copy
DEP CH PSG				
EXO PSG				/
PSG/AID				
CH/TSG				
DEP CH/TSG				
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DIR/IAS/DDI				
CH/DIAXX-4				
CH/DIAAP-9				
CH/SBAD				

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IP FORM 30 (7 70) OBSOLETE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

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MEMORANDUM FOR: [redacted]

[redacted] represented us at a meeting in [redacted] office last Wednesday to discuss this response to NSA. You will note that the response avoids the suggestion made in Adm. Gayler's letter (see para 2) that NIIC be a separate COINS subscription manager. This is fine with us. [redacted]

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FORM NO. 1 AUG 54 101 REPLACES FORM 10-101 WHICH MAY BE USED.

(over)

(47)

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who took [redacted] plan in OPPB
has the stock and is developing
an Agency position on COINS.

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OV
8/7

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